

#### **USDA Foreign Agricultural Service**

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### India

# Agricultural Situation Monsoon Progress Report No. 3 2005

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#### **Report Highlights:**

The monsoon covered the entire country by June 30, two weeks ahead of the normal date. The rainfall situation improved considerably during the week ending June 29, with parts of Gujarat, however, experiencing severe flooding.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report New Delhi [IN1] Despite a late start and slow initial progress, the monsoon advanced swiftly during the week of June 29 to cover the entire country by June 30, two weeks ahead of the normal date (Fig. 1). For the week ending June 29, rainfall was normal or above-normal in 22 of the 36 weather subdivisions, compared with ten during the previous week. (Fig. 2). Unprecedented heavy rains occurred in Gujarat, causing serious flooding in several parts of the state and resulting in loss of human lives and property. Above normal rains occurred in several parts of Maharashtra (except Marathwada), Orissa, Chattisgarh, West Bengal, the Telangana region of Andhra Pradesh, parts of Rajasthan, Punjab, and Haryana. However, precipitation was significantly below-normal in Tamil Nadu, Marathwada, and Jammu and Kashmir.

Cumulative rainfall from June 1 to June 29 was normal or above-normal in 17 of the 36 weather subdivisions, a significant improvement over the previous week, when only 8 subdivisions received normal or above-normal rainfall (Fig. 3). The all-India area-weighted rainfall through June 29 was still 20 percent below normal. Progressive planting reports compiled by the Agriculture Ministry show that, as of June 27, planting of most crops, with the exception of sugarcane, cotton, pulses, and jute, are lagging behind last year's levels. However, with the recent good rains, planting is expected to pick up. In Gujarat, which is a major producer of peanuts and cotton, planting operations are likely to be delayed due to flooding. Nevertheless, the window of opportunity to plant of most kharif crops remains open until end-July.

## PROGRESS OF SOUTHWEST MONSOON 2005





